

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Guenter ESCH et al.

Art Unit: 3746

Application No.: 09/582,307

Confirmation No.: 3612

Filed: June 22, 2000

Examiner: Charles G. Freay

For: VACUUM CLEANER FAN

RENEWED PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(B)

MS Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 23, 2008

Dear Sir:

This is a renewed petition for revival of the above-identified application. This application became abandoned for failure to file a timely reply to an Office Action dated May 24, 2001.

I. Period One: Delay in reply that originally resulted in the abandonment.

The abandonment of the above-identified application was the result of unintentional insufficient oversight over the prosecution of the above-identified application. During the time the reply necessary to avoid abandonment was due, the assignee of the rights to the above-identified application, Miele & Cie. KG, was experiencing considerable employee turnover in its patent department. This personnel turnover, and resulting confusion regarding management responsibilities, resulted in the insufficient oversight over the prosecution of the application in

the patent department. *See* Declaration of Uwe Bauch (hereinafter “the Bauch Declaration”), attached hereto as Exhibit A. This insufficient oversight allowed the inaction and lack of communication from Karl Hormann, the Applicants’ former representative and the attorney responsible for the prosecution of the above referenced application when the reply necessary to avoid abandonment was due, with respect to this application to go unnoticed. Accordingly, Applicants were unaware of the unintentional abandonment of the application.

Further, as described in Applicants’ Statement in Support of Petition for Revival of an Application filed April 15, 2008 (hereinafter “Petition I”), a letter was sent, via facsimile and certified mail, to Mr. Hormann on March 14, 2008 (attached as Exhibit B) requesting an explanation as to why the above reference application became abandoned. Mr. Hormann has still failed to respond to this request for information.

II. Period Two: Delay in filing an initial petition pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.137(b) to revive the application.

Applicants became aware that the application had become abandoned on or about January, 30, 2008. *See* Bauch Declaration, Exhibit A. Applicants had mistakenly stated in Petition I that Applicants had become aware of the abandonment prior to October 18, 2006. In fact, Applicants became aware of the abandonment on or about January 16, 2008, as set forth below. During October 2006, Mr. Hormann was the attorney of record. Although Applicants’ current representatives were retained in May 2006, and a power a “Change in Power of Attorney” was filed via facsimile at the Patent Office on October 24, 2006 (attached hereto as Exhibit C), this facsimile was apparently not received by the Patent Office, and the “Change in Power of Attorney” was electronically re-filed on December 19, 2007. *See* Electronic Acknowledgement

Receipt attached hereto as Exhibit D. The Notice of Acceptance of Power of Attorney was mailed by the Patent Office on January 8, 2008 (attached hereto as Exhibit E). Accordingly, Applicants' current representatives were not able to determine the status of the application on PAIR until January 2008.

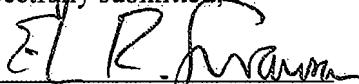
Shortly thereafter, on or about January 16, 2008, Applicants' current representative became aware of the abandonment. A January 16, 2008 internal email indicating Applicants' current representatives' discovery of the abandonment is attached hereto as Exhibit F. After becoming aware of the abandonment, on April 15, 2008, Applicants' current representatives filed a Petition to Revive, an Information Disclosure Statement, and a response to the May 24, 2001 Office Action. A copy of each of these documents is attached as Exhibit G. Applicants' current representatives have been working diligently to revive the application.

Accordingly, Applicants hereby petition to revive this application. The entire delay in filing the required reply from the due date for the required reply until the filing of a grantable petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) was unintentional.

It is believed that no additional fees are required for this petition or the accompanying response. However, should additional fees be necessary in connection with the filing of this petition or the accompanying response, or if a petition for an additional extension of time is required for timely acceptance of the same, the Commissioner is hereby authorized and requested to charge Deposit Account No. 04-0100 for any such fees, and applicants hereby petition for any needed extension of time.

Dated: September 23, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Erik R. Swanson
Registration No.: 40,833

DARBY & DARBY P.C.
P.O. Box 5257
New York, New York 10150-5257
(212) 527-7700
(212) 527-7701 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicants

EXHIBIT A

Attorney Docket: 20794/0205568-US0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Guenter ESCH et al.

Art Unit: 3746

Application No.: 09/582,307

Confirmation No.: 3612

Filed: June 22, 2000

Examiner: Charles G. Freay

For: VACUUM CLEANER FAN

DECLARATION IN SUPPORT OF PETITION TO REVIVE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.137(B)

MS Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I, Uwe Bauch, declare as follows:

1. I am an employee of MIELE & CIE. KG., the assignee of U.S. patent application No. 09/582,307 entitled "VACUUM CLEANER FAN" (hereafter "the '307 Application"). I am familiar with the '307 Application and the department I work in at MIELE & CIE. KG. is responsible for the prosecution of the '307 Application.

2. During the fall of 2001, my office was experiencing personnel turnover. The various personnel changes necessitated changes to the management responsibilities over various patents and patent applications. The confusion resulting from the personnel departures and changes to management responsibilities resulted in a failure to have oversight over the prosecution of the '307 Application.

{W:\20794\0205568-us0\01647826.DOC [REDACTED] }

ba

DECLARATION
Application No.: 09/582,307
Page - 2 -

3. My office did not receive any communications from Karl Hormann, the attorney responsible for the prosecution of the '307 Application, regarding the May 24, 2001 Office Action issued in the examination of the '307 Application.

4. In May of 2006 our office elected to obtain new representation before the U.S. Patent Office.

5. Our current representatives before the U.S. Patent Office, DARBY & DARBY PC, filed a revocation and new power of attorney before the U.S. Patent Office in the '307 Application, which was accepted by the Patent Office on January 8, 2008.

6. On or about January of 2008 I became aware that the '307 Application had become abandoned.

7. We instructed our current representatives to proceed with preparing a response to the May 24, 2001 Office Action and to file a petition to revive the '307 Application.

8. On April 15, 2008 our current representatives filed a Petition to Revive the '307 Application, a response to the May 24, 2001 Office Action, and an Information Disclosure Statement.

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DECLARATION
Application No.: 09/582,307
Page - 3 -

9. I further state that all statements made herein are of my own knowledge are true; and further that these statements were made with my knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under §1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.


Uwe Bauch

22.09.2008
Date



DARBY &
DARBY

PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

EXHIBIT B

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

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LIEBIGSTRASSE 51
60329 FRANKFURT AM MAIN
GERMANY
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FAX +49 (0)69 713 7798-29
www.darbylaw.com

March 14, 2008

ERIK R. SWANSON
PRINCIPAL
(0)69 713 7798-0
eswanson@darbylaw.com

NEW YORK
SEATTLE
WASHINGTON, D.C.
SAN JOSE
PALM BEACH GARDENS
FRANKFURT

Karl Hormann, Esq.
Law Offices of Karl Hormann
86 Sparks Street
Cambridge MA 02138-2216
USA

Your Reference: 000393
Miele Reference: USA 98043 Ba/pe
Darby Reference: 20794/0205568-US0

Re: Abandonment of U.S. Patent Application 09/582,307, filed June 22, 2000

Dear Mr. Hormann:

The above-referenced application became abandoned on September 26, 2002.

As your office was responsible for prosecution of the application when the reply necessary to avoid abandonment was due, we are writing to ask you to provide a statement explaining why action was not timely taken to prevent the application from becoming abandoned. We ask that your statement explain why this application became abandoned while it was under your control and what efforts you made to reply to the outstanding office action. We ask that your statement include at least the following to the extent applicable:

- (1) evidence concerning the procedures in place that should have avoided the error resulting in the delay;
- (2) evidence concerning the training and experience of the person(s) responsible for the error; and

DARBY &
DARBY

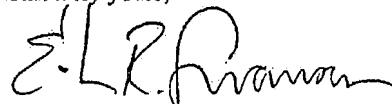
Karl Hormann, Esq.
March 14, 2008
Page 2

(3) copies of any applicable docketing records to show that the error was in fact the cause of the delay.

We ask that you include copies of any correspondence relating to the filing (or failure to file) of a reply to the outstanding office action from you or other persons involved with this application at the time of the abandonment. To the extent there are other persons having first hand knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the lack of a reply to the outstanding office action, we ask that you provide statements from those persons.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this matter. We ask that you provide your statement(s) within one month of the date of this letter, i.e., by April 13, 2008.

Sincerely yours,



Erik R. Swanson

ERS:mno

cc: Miele & Cie. KG

HP Officejet 7310
Personal Printer/Fax/Copier/Scanner

Log for
Darby & Darby Frankfurt
+49 69 713 7798-29
Mar 14 2008 5:30PM

Last Transaction

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Identification</u>	<u>Duration</u>	<u>Pages</u>	<u>Result</u>
Mar 14 5:29PM		Fax Sent	00016174918877	0:57	2	OK

*** TX REPORT ***

FILE

TRANSMISSION OK

TX/RX NO 0770
CONNECTION TEL 9157127383009920794
SUBADDRESS
CONNECTION ID
ST. TIME 10/24 22:37
USAGE T 00'42
PGS. SENT 4
RESULT OK

FAX TRANSMISSION

DATE: October 24, 2006

PTO IDENTIFIER: Application Number 09/582,307
Patent Number

Inventor: Guenter Esch et al.

MESSAGE TO: US Patent and Trademark Office

FAX NUMBER: (571) 273-8300

FROM: DARBY & DARBY P.C.

Erik R. Swanson

PHONE: (212) 527-7700

Attorney Dkt. #: [REDACTED]

PAGES (Including Cover Sheet): 4

CONTENTS:

Certificate of Transmission (1 page)
Power of Attorney to Prosecute Application Before the USPTO (1 page)
Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73(b) (1 page)

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This transmission is intended for the sole use of the individual and entity to whom it is addressed, and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. You are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution or duplication of this transmission by someone other than the intended addressee or its designated agent is strictly prohibited.

FAX TRANSMISSION

DATE: October 24, 2006

PTO IDENTIFIER: Application Number 09/582,307
Patent Number

Inventor: Guenter Esch et al.

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FAX NUMBER: (571) 273-8300

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Erik R. Swanson

PHONE: (212) 527-7700

Attorney Dkt. #: 20794/0205568-US0

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DARBY & DARBY P.C.
P.O. Box 5257, New York, New York 10150-5257
Telephone: (212) 527-7700 Facsimile: (212) 527-7701

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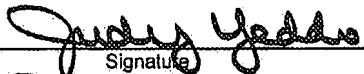
Application No. (if known): 09/582,307

Attorney Docket No.: 20794/0205568-US0

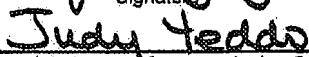
Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

on October 24, 2006
Date



Signature



Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

Registration Number, if applicable

Telephone Number

Note: Each paper must have its own certificate of transmission, or this certificate must identify each submitted paper.

Power of Attorney to Prosecute Application Before the USPTO (1 page)
Statement Under 37 CFR 3.73(b) (1 page)

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

POWER OF ATTORNEY TO PROSECUTE APPLICATIONS BEFORE THE USPTO

I hereby revoke all previous powers of attorney given in the application identified in the attached statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) which statements have been prepared by the practitioners associated with Customer Number 07278 with the Assignee's authorization.

I hereby appoint:

Practitioners associated with the Customer Number:

07278

OR

Practitioner(s) named below (If more than ten patent practitioners are to be named, then a customer number must be used):

Name	Registration Number	Name	Registration Number

as attorney(s) or agent(s) to represent the undersigned before the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in connection with any and all patent applications assigned only to the undersigned according to the USPTO assignment records or assignment documents attached to this form in accordance with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Please change the correspondence address for the application identified in the attached statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) to:

The address associated with Customer Number:

07278

OR

Firm or Individual Name

Address

City

State

Zip

Country

Telephone

Email

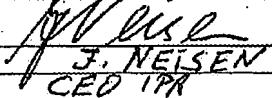
Assignee Name and Address:

Miele & Cie. KG, Carl-Miele-Strasse 29, 33332 Gütersloh, Germany

A copy of this form, together with a statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) (Form PTO/SB/96 or equivalent) is required to be filed in each application in which this form is used. The statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) may be completed by one of the practitioners appointed in this form if the appointed practitioner is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee, and must identify the application in which this Power of Attorney is to be filed.

SIGNATURE of Assignee of Record

The individual whose signature and title is supplied below is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee

Signature		Date	13 Sep. 2006
Name	J. NIELSEN	Telephone	+49 5241-894250
Title	CEO IPA		

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)Applicant/Patent Owner: Miele & Cie KGApplication No./Patent No./Control No.: 09/682,907 Filed/Issue Date: June 22, 2000Entitled: VACUUM CLEANER FANMiele & Cie, KG b Corporation:
(Name of Assignee) (Type of Assignee: e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.)

states that it is:

1. the assignee of the entire right, title, and interest; or
 2. an assignee of less than the entire right, title and interest.

(The extent (by percentage) of its ownership interest is %)

In the patent application/patent identified above by virtue of either:

A. An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application/patent identified above. The assignment was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 010913, Frame 0147, or a true copy of the original assignment is attached.

OR

B. A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application/patent identified above, to the current assignee as follows:

1. From: _____ To: _____
 The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at
 Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

2. From: _____ To: _____
 The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at
 Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

3. From: _____ To: _____
 The document was recorded in the United States Patent and Trademark Office at
 Reel _____, Frame _____, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

Additional documents in the chain of title are listed on a supplemental sheet.

As required by 37 CFR 3.73(b)(1)(i), the documentary evidence of the chain of title from the original owner to the assignee was, or concurrently is being, submitted for recordation pursuant to 37 CFR 3.11.
 (NOTE: A separate copy (i.e., a true copy of the original assignment document(s)) must be submitted to Assignment Division, in accordance with 37 CFR Part 3, to record the assignment in the records of the USPTO.
 See MPEP 302.08)

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is authorized to act on behalf of the assignee.


10/18/2006

Signature

Date

Erik R. Swanson

Printed or Typed Name

(212) 527-7700

Registration Number 40,833

Telephone Number

Title

EXHIBIT D**Electronic Acknowledgement Receipt**

EFS ID:	2610923
Application Number:	09582307
International Application Number:	
Confirmation Number:	3612
Title of Invention:	VACUUM CLEANER FAN
First Named Inventor/Applicant Name:	GUENTER. ESCH
Correspondence Address:	LAW OFFICES OF KARL HORMANN 86 SPARKS STREET CAMBRIDGE MA 02138-2216 US 6174918867
Filer:	Jay Philip Lesser
Filer Authorized By:	
Attorney Docket Number:	000393
Receipt Date:	19-DEC-2007
Filing Date:	22-JUN-2000
Time Stamp:	00:13:03
Application Type:	U.S. National Stage under 35 USC 371

Payment information:

Submitted with Payment	no
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File Listing:

Document Number	Document Description	File Name	File Size(Bytes) /Message Digest	Multi Part /.zip	Pages (if appl.)			
1		00888374.pdf	363106 807515cbdd567f90ac34a84924e0d14e7 513f97d7	yes	2			
Multipart Description/PDF files In .zip description								
Document Description		Start	End					
Power of Attorney		1	1					
Assignee showing of ownership per 37 CFR 3.73(b).		2	2					
Warnings:								
Information:								
Total Files Size (in bytes):				363106				
<p>This Acknowledgement Receipt evidences receipt on the noted date by the USPTO of the indicated documents, characterized by the applicant, and including page counts, where applicable. It serves as evidence of receipt similar to a Post Card, as described in MPEP 503.</p> <p>New Applications Under 35 U.S.C. 111 If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53(b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.</p> <p>National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371 If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an International application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.</p> <p>New International Application Filed with the USPTO as a Receiving Office If a new international application is being filed and the international application includes the necessary components for an international filing date (see PCT Article 11 and MPEP 1810), a Notification of the International Application Number and of the International Filing Date (Form PCT/RO/105) will be issued in due course, subject to prescriptions concerning national security, and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the international filing date of the application.</p>								

EXHIBIT E

WES/CE
ERS/EP



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING OR 371(C) DATE	FIRST NAMED APPLICANT	ATTY. DOCKET NO./TITLE
09/582,307	06/22/2000	GUENTER ESCH	000393

CONFIRMATION NO. 3612

POA ACCEPTANCE LETTER

00000000027555837

Date Mailed: 01/08/2008

NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE OF POWER OF ATTORNEY

This is in response to the Power of Attorney filed 12/19/2007.

The Power of Attorney in this application is accepted. Correspondence in this application will be mailed to the above address as provided by 37 CFR 1.33.

/nrhayden/

Office of Initial Patent Examination (571) 272-4000 or 1-800-PTO-9199

EXHIBIT F

From: Barrison, Flynn
Sent: Mittwoch, 16. Januar 2008 17:09
To: Swanson, Erik R
Cc: EX_Docketing
Subject: 20794/0205568-US0

Erik:

The PTO finally accepted our POA in this case. Unfortunately it is abandoned as of 2002. The Office Action is too old to be in the IFW as well.

09-26-2002 Mail Abandonment for Failure to Respond to Office Action
09-26-2002 Abandonment for Failure to Respond to Office Action
05-24-2001 Mail Non-Final Rejection
05-23-2001 Non-Final Rejection

The Examiner is FREAY, CHARLES G (571)272-4827

Flynn Barrison
Patent Services Manager
DARBY & DARBY P.C.
7 World Trade Center
250 Greenwich Street
New York, NY 10007-0042
212.527.7700 | Main Number
212.527.7701 | Fax Number

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EXHIBIT G

Docket No.: 20794/0205568-US0
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Guenter ESCH et al.

Application No.: 09/582,307

Confirmation No.: 3612

Filed: June 22, 2000

Art Unit: 3746

For: VACUUM CLEANER FAN

Examiner: Charles G. Freay

AMENDMENT / RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 15, 2008

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated May 24, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.

Amendments to the Specification

In the Specification please insert the following paragraph before the section entitled "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION":

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a U.S. national phase application under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of International Patent Application No. PCT/EP99/08099, filed October 27, 1999, and claims benefit of German Patent Application No. 198 50 236.2, filed October 31, 1998.

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application;

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-26 (Canceled)

Claim 27 (New): A vacuum cleaner fan, comprising:

an electric drive motor including a support cage configured to receive structural modules of the motor, the structural modules including a stator pack, a rotor and brush holders having carbon brushes and contact pins; and

a blower unit having at least a single stage, the blower unit driven by the motor and including a deflector, an impeller and a suction hood, the deflector configured as a cover for the support cage and including a bearing seat configured to receive the rotor;

wherein the support cage is configured to receive the structural modules to extend in an axial direction of the blower and wherein the support cage is configured such that the contact pins of the brush holders directly contact stator contacts, the brush holders disposed in or on an area of an upper side of the support cage that faces the deflector.

Claim 28 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 27, wherein the support cage includes a rim that extends from the cage and faces the deflector, the rim including receptacles configured to receive the brush holders, the receptacles formed in the rim and open upwardly towards the interior of the support cage.

Claim 29 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 27, wherein the stator pack includes protruding stator pack connectors and the rim includes openings that extend into a wall of the support cage, the openings configured to receive the stator pack connectors.

Claim 30 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 29, wherein the stator pack connectors are directly contacted by the carbon brushes.

Claim 31 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 29, wherein the brush holders include brush holder connector pins extending in an axial direction of the support cage, the brush holder connector pins configured to contact the stator pack connectors when the carbon brushes are placed into the receptacles.

Claim 32 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 29, wherein the rim includes at least one further receptacle configured to receive a plug-in component group that includes electrical components configured to at least one of provide for switching, control and safety functions of the motor.

Claim 33 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 32, wherein the electrical components are arranged on a circuit board that is insertable into the at least one further receptacle, the stator pack connectors connected directly with the circuit board during insertion of the circuit board.

Claim 34 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 33, wherein the circuit board is configured to be placed in an adaptor housing in the at least one further receptacle.

Claim 35 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 32, wherein a bottom side of the at least one further receptacle includes a socket opening penetrating through the wall of the support cage and configured to receive an external plug-in connection.

Claim 36 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 34, wherein the adaptor housing includes the connector pins and the circuit board is placed in the adaptor housing or the circuit board includes the connector pins.

Claim 37 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 36, wherein the adaptor housing includes further connector pins that extend freely into a socket opening in the support cage that is configured for an external plug-in connection.

Claim 38 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 34, wherein the adaptor housing is configured to be inserted positively into the receptacle.

Claim 39 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 33, wherein the electrical components include a decoupling capacitor and a thermal switch for the motor.

Claim 40 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 34, wherein the adaptor housing includes a hold down bracket configured to hold down the stator pack.

Claim 41 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 34, wherein the adaptor housing includes a lower housing portion configured to receive the circuit board and a lid portion linked to the lower housing portion.

Claim 42 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 41, wherein the lid portion is flexibly linked to the lower housing portion.

Claim 43 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 28, wherein the deflector is centrically affixed to the rim.

Claim 44 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 28, wherein the rim and the deflector include one or more positively interfitting centering guides that are respectively configured to mutually align the support cage and the deflector, the deflector including the one or more positively centering guides in a marginal portion at the lower side of the deflector.

Claim 45 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 44, wherein the center guides include at least one of pins, profiled protrusions and bores.

Claim 46 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 44, wherein the receptacles for the brush holders are configured as centering counter pieces for the centering guides and are positioned at the lower side of the deflector.

Claim 47 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 44, wherein the centering guides are configured as hold-down brackets for the brush holders.

Claim 48 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 44, wherein the centering guides have a U-shaped configuration and are configured as hold-down brackets.

Claim 49 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 27, wherein the stator pack is positively secured in the support cage.

Claim 50 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 27, wherein the support cage includes at least one of support braces and receptacles that positively complement a contour of a stator of the stator pack.

Claim 51 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 27, wherein the support cage includes a support cage bottom having suction air exits and configured to receive a rotor bearing.

Claim 52 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 27, wherein the support cage and the deflector include a nonmetallic material.

Claim 53 (New): The vacuum cleaner fan recited in claim 52, wherein the nonmetallic material includes a plastic.

REMARKS

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance.

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1-26 have been cancelled herein without prejudice. New claims 27-53 have been added. New claims 27-53 are fully supported by originally filed claims 1-26 as well as the Specification. No new matter has been added.

II. Claim Objections and Rejections

The objections to claims 1, 4 and 25 and the rejections of claims 1-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 have been rendered moot as claims 1-26 have been cancelled herein. It is respectfully submitted that new claims 27-53 fully comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112. Withdrawal of the objections and rejections is respectfully requested.

III. Objection to the Specification

The Specification has been amended as suggested in the Office Action. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the Specification is respectfully requested.

IV. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 1-26. New claims 27-53 includes features similar to features included in cancelled claims 1-26 and accordingly Applicants respectfully submit that claims 27-53 also contain allowable subject matter.

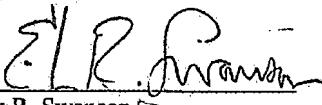
CONCLUSION

Each and every point raised in the Office Action dated May 24, 2001 has been addressed on the basis of the above amendments and remarks. In view of the foregoing it is believed that claims 27-53 are in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that claims 27-53 be allowed and the case passed to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

Dated: April 15, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Erik R. Swanson
Registration No.: 40,833

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Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/582,307-Conf. #3612
				Filing Date	June 22, 2000
				First Named Inventor	Guenther Esch
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	20794/0205568-US0

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		
AA*	US-5,477,588		12-26-1995	Iida et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		
BA	DE-1563028		04-23-1970	Siemens Ag	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BB	DE-19606146		08-21-1997	Vorwerk Co Interholding	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
BC	EP-0270935		06-15-1988	Shop Vac Corp	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 509. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. * CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an single asterisk (*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> T ²			

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Docket No.: 20794/0205568-US0
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Guenter Esch et al.

Application No.: 09/582,307
Filed: June 22, 2000
For: VACUUM CLEANER FAN

Confirmation No.: 3612
Art Unit: N/A
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, 1.98, and it is requested that the information set forth in this statement and in the listed documents be considered during the pendency of the above-identified application, and any other application relying on the filing date of the above-identified application or cross-referencing it as a related application.

1. This IDS should be considered, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, as it is filed:
(Check one of the boxes A-D)

- A. within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national application or within three months of the entry into the national stage of the above identified national application
- B. before the mailing date of a first office action on the merits, or a first office action after filing a request for continued examination.
- C. after (A) and (B) above, but before final rejection or allowance, and Applicants have made the necessary statement in box "i" below or paid the necessary fee in box "ii" below.

(check one of the boxes "i" and "ii" below:)

{W:\20794\0205568-us0\01501488.DOC [REDACTED]}

i. Counsel states that, upon information and belief, each item of information listed herein was (check one of boxes (a) or (b))

(a) first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or

(b) not cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was not known to any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

ii. Payment in the amount of the fee set forth in 1. 17(p), presently believed to be \$180, is enclosed.

D. after (A), (B) and (C) above, but before payment of the issue fee: Applicant petitions under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d) for the consideration of this IDS. Under 37 CFR 1.17(p) payment in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed. Counsel certifies that, upon information and belief, each item of information listed herein was

(check one of the boxes "a" and "b" below:)

(a) first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS; or

(b) was not cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, was not known to any individual designated in 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this IDS.

2. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98, this IDS includes a list (e.g., form PTO/SB/08) of all patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the office, either incorporated into this IDS or as an attachment hereto. A copy of each document listed is attached, except as explained below.

(check boxes A, B and/or C and fill in blanks, if appropriate.)

A. Pursuant to the Notice issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office dated August 5, 2003 waiving the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(ii), a copy/copies of the U.S. Patent(s) and/or U.S. Patent Application Publication(s) on PTO/SB/08 is/are not being submitted.

B. Document(s) _____ is (are) deemed substantially cumulative to document(s) _____, and, in accordance with 1.98(c), only a copy of each of the latter documents is enclosed.

C. Certain documents were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in the following prior applications, which are relied upon under 35 U.S.C. 120:

<<INSERT SERIAL NO. & FILING DATE>>

Applicant identifies these documents by attaching hereto copies of the forms PTO-892, PTO-1449 and/or PTO/SB/08 from the files of the prior application(s) or a fresh PTO/SB/08 listing these documents, and request that they be considered and made of record in accordance with 1.98(d). Per 37 CFR 1.98(d), copies of these documents need not be filed in this application.

3. Cite Nos. BA-BB are not in the English language. In accordance with 1.98(c), Applicant states:

An English translation of each document (or of the pertinent portions thereof), or a copy of each corresponding English-language patent or application, or English-language abstract (or claim) is enclosed.

The requirement for a concise explanation of the relevance of any foreign language document is satisfied by the attached search report; citation of the documents cited in the search report shall not be construed as an admission that they are or are considered to be, material to patentability of the subject matter claimed herein (See MPEP §609).

A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) _____ is set forth as follows: [Insert concise explanation of relevance]

A concise explanation of the relevance of document(s) BA can be found on page 1 of the specification.

A concise explanation of document(s) _____ can be found on the attached sheet.

- 4. No explanation of relevance is necessary for documents in the English language (see reply to Comments 67 in the preamble to the final rules; 1135 OG 13 at 20).
- 5. Other information being provided for the examiner's consideration follows:

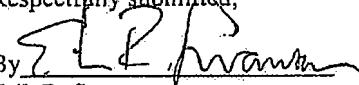
6. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this IDS should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56 (b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item and Applicant reserves the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

Early and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Payment in the amount of \$180.00 covering the fee set forth in 1.17(p) is enclosed. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency of up to \$300.00 or credit any excess in this fee to Deposit Account No. 04-0100.

Dated: April 15, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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